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United States Foreign Trade

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
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BUREAU OF THE CENSUS
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SUMMARY REPORT
FT 930-I

May 1964

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IMPORT TRADE BY COMMODITY

The Bureau of the Census, Department of Commerce, announced today that the decline in United States imports for consumption from $1,555.3 million in April to $1,433.8 million in May[1], a decrease of about eight percent, was largely due to decreases in imports of crude foodstuffs, finished manufactures, and semimanufactures. The May 1964 imports for consumption total was slightly lower than the May 1963 total of $1,437.2 million.

Imports for consumption for the first five months of 1964 amounted to $7,343.7 million, an increase of about eight percent over the $6,808.8 million reported for the corresponding period of 1963.

The drop in imports of crude foodstuffs from $199.2 million in April to $147.4 million in May was attributed mainly to a substantial decrease in imports of coffee, from $131.6 to $84.2 million. Imports of finished manufactures fell, from $602.7 to $555.7 million, owing partly to decreases in imports of automobiles and parts, from $55.4 to $47.4 million, and vehicles, except automobiles, from $21.6 to $13.8 million. Imports of semimanufactures declined, from $343.1 to $311.1 million, mainly due to decreases in imports of gas and fuel oil, from $59.1 to $40.6 million, and fertilizers and materials, from $12.8 to $6.5 million. However, imports of iron and steel semimanufactures advanced from $32.8 to $39.4 million.

The increase in imports of manufactured foodstuffs, from $142.6 to $149.2 million, was largely accounted for by an increase in imports of sugar, from $32.1 to $47.8 million. Although the increase in imports of crude materials was small, from $267.8 to $270.4 million, imports of iron ore and concentrates increased appreciably, from $23.9 to $35.4 million, and imports of crude rubber rose from $13.6 to $20.6 million. Partly counteracting these increases was a fall in imports of crude petroleum, from $84.8 to $78.7 million.

[1]See the May 1964 issue of Report No. FT 900-I for seasonally adjusted figures on general imports. Seasonally adjusted data are not available for imports for consumption or on a commodity basis.

EXPLANATION OF STATISTICS

COVERAGE: Import statistics include merchandise imported by government agencies as well as by private importers, but exclude American goods returned by the United States armed forces for their own use. United States trade with Puerto Rico and United States possessions is not included in this report, but the import trade of Puerto Rico with foreign countries is included as a part of the United States import trade. Merchandise shipped in transit through the United States between foreign countries is not included in import statistics. However, the statistics may include some merchandise (principally duty-free) which is entered through United States Customs and subsequently exported in the same condition in which imported. In many cases, such merchandise differs from in transit merchandise only in the manner in which it is documented.

VALUATION: Import values are, in general, based on market price or selling price, and are, in general, f.o.b. the exporting country. Import values also exclude United States import duties. None of the values have been adjusted for changes in price level.

RELIABILITY: Monthly import statistics for individual commodities are based on full compilation of all formal entry shipments valued $100 and over (over 99 percent of total import value) and are therefore free of sampling variability. They are, however, subject to some error due to the omission of informal entry shipments (i.e. those valued under $250) and under $100 formal entry shipments from commodity statistics, and also from such sources as the carry-over of data from month to month in the compiling process and errors in the reporting or processing. Although the effect of such errors on the rounded totals in this report is probably small, the possibility of inaccuracy should be taken into account particularly in using figures of relatively small magnitude. The largest variation from rounding of figures is $50,000.

Further information regarding coverage, valuation, compilation procedures and precision of import data is contained in the foreword of Report No. FT 110. For complete statement, see foreword in Foreign Commerce and Navigation of the United States.

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Prepared in the Bureau of the Census, Foreign Trade Division

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UNITED STATES IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF MERCHANDISE, BY ECONOMIC CLASSES AND LEADING COMMODITIES: MAY 1964 AND SELECTED PERIODS

(Quantity in units indicated; value in millions of dollars. Imports for consumption are a total of imports for immediate consumption plus withdrawals for consumption from bonded warehouses. Figures for 1964 are as originally issued have not been revised to include published corrections. Figures for 1963 include all revisions published with the December 1963 reports, or earlier, but do not include revisions published during 1964. Totals represent sum of unrounded figures, hence may vary slightly from sum of rounded amounts.)

Economic class and commodity[1,2]		May 1964	May 1964	May 1963	Monthly average 1963
Total	value	1,433.8	1,555.3	1,437.2	1,417.8
Free	value	555.9	605.3	554.6	522.8
Dutiable	value	877.9	950.0	882.6	895.0
Crude materials	value	270.4	267.8	264.3	261.7
Hides and skins	value	8.3	7.9	7.0	5.2
Undressed furs	value	8.0	10.8	9.5	9.7
Crude rubber	1,000,000 lb.	100	65	78	72
	value	20.6	13.6	18.3	16.8
Copra	1,000 lb.	50,590	13,664	17,242	43,413
	value	3.7	1.0	1.2	3.2
Tobacco, unmanufactured	1,000 lb.	14,147	14,687	14,547	13,985
	value	9.2	9.4	8.4	8.2
Cotton, unmanufactured	1,000 lb.	10,124	8,706	5,983	11,186
	value	0.7	0.9	0.5	2.3
Jute and jute butts	long tons	8,834	7,162	8,750	6,442
	value	1.4	1.1	1.4	1.1
Sisal and henequen	long tons	7,770	6,492	5,905	7,583
	value	2.2	1.7	1.3	1.8
Wool, unmanufactured, free	(1,000,000 lb.) actual weight	14	12	20	18
	clean content[3]	11	10	16	14
	value	9.8	8.2	10.4	9.6
Wool, unmanufactured, dutiable	(1,000,000 lb.) actual weight	10	12	13	14
	clean content[3]	7	9	9	10
	value	7.9	10.1	8.5	9.3
Pulpwood	1,000 cords	(*)	(*)	100	(*)
	value	1.4	1.9	1.3	2.1
Crude petroleum	1,000 bbl.	34,943	37,247	38,747	37,885
	value	78.7	84.8	86.7	85.4
Diamonds, rough or uncut	1,000 carats	111	133	153	146
	value	12.4	11.7	15.7	10.8
Diamonds, for industrial use	1,000 carats	900	1,275	1,684	981
	value	3.9	5.0	6.3	4.1
Iron ore and concentrates	1,000 long tons	3,451	2,403	3,055	2,772
	value	35.4	23.9	29.8	26.9
Ferroalloying ores	value	7.1	7.5	[4]7.2	[4]9.1
Copper (copper content)	1,000 lb.	1,592	3,770	4,473	3,709
	value	0.5	1.1	1.3	1.1
Lead (lead content)	1,000 lb.	9,389	51,878	9,862	23,140
	value	1.1	4.1	0.9	1.9
Tin (tin content)	long tons	313	2,046	-	244
	value	0.7	1.2	-	0.3
Zinc (zinc content)	1,000 lb.	50,362	101,921	58,427	67,709
	value	2.8	5.5	2.0	2.8
Other nonferrous ores and concentrates	value	11.4	12.7	10.3	10.0
All other crude materials	value	43.0	43.6	36.2	39.8
Crude foodstuffs	value	147.4	199.2	137.3	143.8
Fish and shellfish	1,000 lb.	(*)	(*)	47,858	49,011
	value	17.5	19.5	21.1	19.5
Cattle, except for breeding	thousands	42	70	72	69
	value	2.2	4.1	4.7	5.6
Grains	value	2.5	3.0	1.3	2.0
Vegetables, fresh and dried	value	5.4	8.4	2.6	3.7
Bananas	1,000 lb.	289,009	311,173	339,351	290,451
	value	9.8	8.6	7.7	6.8
Cocoa or cacao beans	1,000,000 lb.	35	38	48	53
	value	8.1	8.2	11.1	11.3
Coffee, raw or green	1,000,000 lb.	211	325	238	263
	value	84.2	131.6	70.8	79.6
Tea	1,000 lb.	11,552	13,982	11,293	10,503
	value	5.2	6.1	5.2	4.9
Black pepper, unground	1,000 lb.	6,130	1,282	3,649	3,370
	value	1.7	0.4	1.1	0.9
All other crude foodstuffs	value	10.9	9.1	11.7	9.5

See footnotes at end of table.

UNITED STATES IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF MERCHANDISE, BY ECONOMIC CLASSES AND LEADING COMMODITIES:
MAY 1964 AND SELECTED PERIODS—Continued

Economic class and commodity[1]		May 1964	April 1964	May 1963	Monthly average 1963
Manufactured foodstuffs	value	149.2	142.6	162.0	166.4
Meat products	value	30.8	34.9	45.1	44.9
Cheese	1,000 lb.	7,045	6,401	7,834	6,919
	value	3.0	3.0	3.3	3.1
Fish and shellfish canned, prepared, etc	1,000 lb.	37,170	40,267	40,289	44,620
	value	11.3	12.2	12.1	13.1
Fodders and feeds	value	1.3	1.9	1.4	1.4
Cane or beet sugar	1,000,000 lb.	682	416	778	746
	value	47.8	32.1	48.0	50.9
Molasses	1,000 gal.	35,818	33,657	25,025	22,659
	value	4.7	4.3	4.2	3.7
Whisky	value	18.1	19.2	18.1	19.1
All other manufactured foodstuffs	value	32.1	35.0	29.9	30.4
Semimanufactures	value	311.1	343.1	329.2	312.7
Leather	value	3.7	4.4	4.8	4.1
Bristles	1,000 lb.	237	194	371	294
	value	0.9	0.8	1.1	0.9
Expressed oils, inedible	value	4.3	5.2	5.2	5.0
Quebracho	1,000 lb.	7,435	6,534	5,145	5,054
	value	0.5	0.4	0.3	0.3
Wool semimanufactures	value	4.5	5.7	6.1	5.9
Sawed boards, planks, deals, etc	1,000,000 bd. ft.	(*)	(*)	463	9,590
	value	31.9	33.6	31.4	30.5
Wood pulp	1,000 short tons	225	228	222	231
	value	28.0	29.1	26.9	27.5
Gas and fuel oil	1,000 bbl.	20,015	28,721	19,381	23,163
	value	40.6	59.1	40.5	48.0
Asbestos	short tons	4,718	5,567	58,834	37,804
	value	0.9	1.1	4.9	3.5
Diamonds, cut but not set	1,000 carats	79	82	90	35
	value	8.5	7.9	8.5	7.8
Iron and steel semimanufactures	value	39.4	32.8	31.1	29.2
Aluminum	value	15.3	14.7	18.3	16.8
Copper (copper content)	1,000,000 lb.	77	84	63	69
	value	23.2	25.0	18.8	20.5
Lead (lead content)	1,000 lb.	33,526	47,962	36,939	40,133
	value	3.5	5.1	3.6	3.8
Nickel and alloys	1,000 lb.	20,834	24,873	31,081	20,001
	value	14.4	17.5	21.9	14.4
Tin	1,000 lb.	5,427	5,355	10,072	8,405
	value	6.9	6.6	10.9	9.1
Zinc	1,000 lb.	20,066	30,486	24,194	22,535
	value	2.4	3.3	2.4	2.4
Coal-tar products	value	3.6	3.9	6.4	4.9
Industrial chemicals	value	18.9	22.3	[4]27.5	[4]25.1
Fertilizers and materials	1,000 short tons	173	376	242	205
	value	6.5	12.8	8.6	7.2
All other semimanufactures	value	53.1	51.6	49.8	45.9
Finished manufactures	value	555.7	602.7	544.4	533.2
Leather manufactures	value	8.7	9.8	10.4	11.9
Essential or distilled oils	value	1.7	1.8	2.4	2.2
Cotton cloth[4]	1,000 sq. yd.	35,426	43,029	36,655	39,042
	value	7.5	9.6	8.5	8.9
Other cotton manufactures[4]	value	13.4	17.2	13.5	14.3
Burlap	1,000 yd.	72,186	87,748	112,367	90,397
	1,000 lb.	52,779	63,800	78,315	63,336
	value	11.5	13.6	17.7	14.0
Flax, hemp and ramie manufactures	value	1.1	1.1	2.8	2.5
Wool manufactures	value	19.8	20.3	19.6	22.4
Silk manufactures	value	3.3	3.4	3.5	3.9
Shingles	1,000 squares	253	246	236	238
	value	2.7	2.6	2.3	2.4
Newsprint	1,000 short tons	470	475	494	451
	value	59.6	61.2	63.1	57.3
Other paper manufactures	value	6.2	6.1	7.9	6.9
Pottery	value	5.0	5.1	5.1	5.2

See footnotes at end of table.

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UNITED STATES IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF MERCHANDISE, BY ECONOMIC CLASSES AND LEADING COMMODITIES: MAY 1964 AND SELECTED PERIODS—Continued

Economic class and commodity[1]		May 1964	April 1964	May 1964	Monthly average 1963
Finished manufactures—Continued					
Steel mill products	value..	29.2	29.7	34.4	30.2
Iron and steel advanced manufactures	value..	9.7	10.3	12.5	11.5
Agricultural machinery and implements	value..	16.9	17.6	20.0	14.7
Automobiles and parts	value..	47.4	55.4	48.4	46.8
Other machinery	value..	75.9	83.8	72.7	75.3
Vehicles, except automobiles	value..	13.8	21.6	17.0	16.0
Photographic goods	value..	8.7	8.4	6.5	6.6
Scientific and professional instruments	value..	6.2	7.1	5.6	5.4
Musical instruments and parts	value..	2.3	2.7	2.3	2.5
Toys and sporting goods	value..	8.6	8.5	7.5	8.8
Watches and watch movements, except parts	value..	4.2	5.0	4.5	4.8
American goods returned	value..	31.0	34.0	24.8	25.7
All other finished manufactures	value..	149.4	154.2	115.5	118.3
Estimated value $1-$99 formal and $1-$250 informal entry shipments[5]	value..	12.1	12.7	15.9	14.6

*Not ovoiloble.

[1]Bosed on commodity clossificotions in Schedule A, Stotisticol Clossificotion of Commodities Imported into the United States. A supplement to Report No. FT 930-I showing the Schedule A numbers included in the individuol economic class ond commodity totols is ovoiloble on request. [2]The doto in this report for September 1963 ond subsequent periods ore bosed on the clossificotions in the Toriff Schedules of the United Stotes Annototed (TSUSA), on officiol publicotion of the United Stotes Toriff Commission. A supplement to this report showing the Toriff Schedules of the United Stotes, Annotated (TSUSA numbers) included in the economic closses ond individuol commodities is ovoiloble on request. [3]Includes the octuol weight of corbonized wool. [4]Certoin uronium beoring moteriols, formerly clossified under "ferroolloying ores" ore included under "industriol chemicols" beginning withethe September 1963 stotistics. The 1963 monthly ond monthly overoge figures shown have been revised to reflect this chonge. [5]This estimote is subject to o sompling voriotion of obout 3 percent of the estimoted volue shown. For on explonotion of the sampling procedures used in estimoting, see foreword of Report No. FT 110.

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